

REMARKS

Claims 17-36 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1-16 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 17-36 are newly added. Claims 1-7 and 9-16 stand rejected on prior art grounds. Claims 2-4, 10-11 and 15-16 stand rejected upon informalities. Claim 8 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but according to the Office Action, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections based on the following discussion.

I. The Objections to the Claims

Claims 1, 5, 9, 10, and 15 are objected to because of informalities. Accordingly, the Applicants have cancelled these claims without prejudice or disclaimer and have rewritten them in the new respective claims 17, 23, 34, 35, and 26 and have removed the offending language and typographical errors. In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw these objections.

II. The 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph, Rejections

Claims 2-4, 10-11, and 15-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Accordingly, the Applicants have cancelled these claims without prejudice or disclaimer and have rewritten them in the new respective claims 18-20, 35-36, and 26-27 and have removed the offending language. In view of the foregoing, the Examiner

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is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw these rejections.

III. The Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-2, 5-7, 9 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Vossen, P. ("Extending, Trimming and Fusing WordNet for Technical Documents," 2001), hereinafter referred to as "Vossen". Claims 3-4, 10-11 and 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Vossen in view of Pretschner et al. ("Ontology Based Personalized Search," 1999), hereinafter referred to as "Pretschner". The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections based on the following discussion.

Claims 1-16 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Newly added independent claims 17, 23, 26, 28, and 34 generally recite, in part, "wherein the contexts are identified by finding a set of the words or phrases that occur frequently with said entity and that mutually do not appear together in documents in the information source," which was originally recited in original dependent claim 8, and which page 7 of the Office Action indicates as being allowable subject matter. Accordingly, newly added independent claims 17, 23, 26, 28, and 34 contain features not taught or suggested in Vossen alone or in combination with Pretschner, and as such, are in condition for allowance. Furthermore, dependent claims 18-22, 24-25, 27, 29-33, and 35-36 are similarly patentable over Vossen alone or in combination with Pretschner, not only by virtue of their dependency from patentable independent claims, respectively, but also by virtue of the additional features of the invention they define. Moreover, the Applicants note that all claims are properly supported in the specification and accompanying drawings, and no new matter is being added. In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to

reconsider and withdraw the rejections.

IV. Formal Matters and Conclusion

With respect to the objections/rejections to claims 1-16, the Applicants have cancelled claims 1-16 without prejudice or disclaimer and have generally rewritten the cancelled claims in newly added claims 17-36 to overcome the objections/rejections. In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the objections/rejections to the claims.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants submit that claims 17-36, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary. Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 09-0441.

Respectfully submitted,

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